

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

This Amendment cancels Claims 2-3, 8-9, 16-17, 21-22, 27-28, 32-33 and 37-38; and amends Claims 1, 7, 15, 20, 26 and 31. Support for the amendments is found in the specification and claims as originally filed. In particular, support for the amendments is found in canceled Claims 37-38. No new matter would be introduced by entry of these amendments.

Upon entry of these amendments, Claims 1, 4-7, 10-15, 18-20, 23-26, 29-31, and 34-36 will be pending in this application. Claims 1, 15, 26 and 31 are independent. Claims 7, 10-14, 20 and 23-25 are withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing and reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, in light of the remarks that follow.

Claims 1-6, 15-19 and 26-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,434,014 ("Smith") in view of "ASM Casting" pages 743-760 or "Aluminum standards and data 2003" page 1-6.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication in the Final Rejection at page 5, section 4 that Claims 37-38 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims because "the prior art does not teach or suggest an aluminum alloy piston with the presently claimed ranges of Si, Cu, Fe, Ni, P, Ti, Mg, complete with Mn, V, and Zr, substantially as claimed in instant claims 37 or 38".

Claims 37-38 are incorporated into the independent claims. Thus, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 821.04, after independent product Claims 1 and 15 are allowed, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder, examination and allowance of withdrawn method Claims 7, 10-14, 20 and 23-25, which include all of the limitations of product Claims 1 and 15, respectively.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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